



REGULAR / OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

for

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

4:00 P.M. – 5th Floor Large Conference Room
and

5:30 P.M. - Art Pick Council Chambers
3900 Main Street, Riverside, CA

CASE REVIEW – 4:00 P.M.

Case Review Roll Call

Rotker	Soubirous	Hubbard	Brandriff	Ward	Pearcy	Corral	Santore	Beeman
✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

✓ = Present A = Absent L = Late LE = Left Early

STAFF: Kevin Rogan, CPRC Manager; Phoebe Sherron, Sr. Office Specialist

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Closed Session – Case Reviews

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, the Commission adjourned to Closed Session at 4:03 p.m. to discuss issues pertaining to PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL MATTERS.

CPRC CASE NO.		RPD CASE NO.		CPRC CASE NO.		RPD CASE NO.	
1)	06-021	P3-06-093-205		6)	07-080	PC-07-12093	
2)	07-074	PC-07-11087		7)	07-081	PC-07-12096	
3)	07-060	PC-07-09068		8)	07-067	PC-07-10081	
4)	07-079	PC-07-12092		9)	08-004	PC-08-02012	
5)	07-075	PC-07-11088					

The Commission recessed at 5:30 P.M. to reconvene in the Council Chambers.

REGULAR MEETING – 5:30 P.M.

Audio for the following proceedings is available on the CPRC website:

www.riversideca.gov/cprc

Copies can also be obtained by calling the CPRC office at (951) 826-5509.

Chairman Percy led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge, he asked Ms. Sherron to confirm commissioner attendance.

Regular Meeting Roll Call

Rotker	Soubirous	Hubbard	Brandriff	Ward	Pearcy	Corral	Santore	Beeman
✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓

✓ = Present A = Absent L = Late LE = Left Early

STAFF: Kevin Rogan, CPRC Manager; Phoebe Sherron, Sr. Office Specialist

Public Comments

Mary Shelton spoke on SB 1019 and the Copley Press decision. She also commented on a book by Penny Harrington on sexual harassment, saying it is interesting how law enforcement treats women.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for Approval	Motion	Second	Approve	Oppose	Abstain
A) March 26 Regular Meeting	Ward	Soubirous	7	0	0
B) April 9 Case Review Meeting	Ward	Santore	5	0	2

Staff Report

A) Notification on 90-day-old Complaints

Mr. Rogan advised that Staff would notify PD and generate a letter to complainants of cases 90 days old. He then asked for a motion to approve this action.

Minutes for Approval	Motion	Second	Approve	Oppose	Abstain
To send a letter to complainants in cases 90 days old advising them that their case is being monitored	Ward	Beeman	7	0	0

Mary Shelton said it is important for complainants to be notified of the status of their complaints, noting that a 90-day old complaint has already had to get an extension. She also noted that the average time of complaints with RPD has stretched "way beyond" the normal timeline. She said that RPD should have communication with the complainant in its policy as it's a delay on their part, stating that the Commission is doing work that should be shared by RPD.

B) 2008 Training Schedule

Chairman Percy asked Mr. Rogan for the 2008 Training Schedule. Mr. Rogan said he had spoken

with the Lt. Vance Hardin regarding specifics of cultural diversity and training, noting the Commission should be aware of the training officers receive. Mr. Rogan also commented on Use of Force and "FATS" training, and encouraged commissioners to schedule ride-alongs.

Commissioner Beeman asked about the training being available to the public. Mr. Rogan said that if training were put on by a vendor and open enough, it would be a matter of determining the associated cost. Chairman Percy also explained the process of training notifications.

C) Update on Information Technology Program (6.03.33)

Mr. Rogan reported that the preliminary plan has been approved by Information Technology (IT) and that the process is proceeding well. He asked if any commissioners needed a laptop for use in case review as the city would make the purchase and provide training to use. He noted that if commissioners have a laptop they can use, it would need to be brought in to IT for a day to set up.

Chairman Percy and Commissioner Beeman asked Staff to verify that Mac / Apple computers would have the ability to work with this system. Chairman Percy also noted the need for all commissioners to have internet access.

RPD Training Presentation

Mr. Rogan reported that this training had erroneously been scheduled for the April meeting and that it would be on the May Regular Meeting agenda.

Officer-Involved Death (OID) Evaluation Process

A) Status of commissioners' review of the Cloud OID (6.11.41)

Mr. Rogan stated that the Commission had committed to Stage 1 in the Cloud OID and asked if there were any issues or questions regarding the case.

Mary Shelton said she hoped the commissioners had reviewed the case book, noting that if the public reads the casebook, they will know how well the Commission has reviewed it. She noted that this is the Commission's chance to do what the charter says commissioners can do.

Chairman Percy asked if commissioners had identified any facts for clarification and to give any questions they may have to Staff.

Commissioner Rotker asked if it is RPD policy to shoot someone because they fear the subject has a weapon. Mr. Rogan noted there is a reference to reasonable fear in the Use of Force policy. Chairman Percy commented on how officers are trained to respond to a situation where they fear a weapon may be secreted, but don't see it (fact clarification). He said RPD should speak to the Commission regarding officer training.

Commissioner Beeman:

- said it was unclear to her if it was seriously investigated if Cloud himself was in danger from the people who tried to stop him;
- referred to Page 11 of Baker Street Group's (BSG) Cloud Summary Report, she commented on Mr. Allen telling people to let Cloud go and questioned whether Officer Putnam heard the statement;
- said the Commission should pursue access to other testimony through depositions;
- noted that the incident was initially called in as a 211, but should have been a 487 and asked what RPD's policy is for correcting dispatched calls, whose responsibility it is for correcting once the proper information is received;
- have any of the involved officers been involved in other OID's or OIS's.

Commissioner Santore:

- asked about the timeline when the first officer showed up;
- asked if, after the car accident, any officer saw the citizen providing aid;
- asked about the use of force and how it escalated

Chairman Percy noted that Commissioner Beeman's items fall under Stage 2 and that Commissioner Rotker's question falls under Stage 3. He said the Commission should focus on facts first and the clarification of those facts. He asked Staff to inquire about the availability of the deposition transcripts.

Chairman Percy stated that the history of an officer may not be relevant and that, in the past, the Commission has waited to make that determination. He said that commissioner questions would be handled by staff with status given and discussed at the next meeting, which would be a special meeting.

B) Status of Commissioners' Review of the Hill OID

Chairman Percy informed the Commission that the same process used for Cloud would be used for Hill and that Hill would not be held until Cloud is completed.

Mr. Rogan advised that the Commission's investigator, Butch Warnberg of Baker Street Group, is finishing his report on the Hill OID and would make a presentation at an upcoming Regular Meeting.

Mary Shelton spoke about Mr. Hill's sister, Leslie Braden, and asked if there is a way family member can be advised of Commission meetings. She also said that she hopes that RPD will be more respectful of questions asked by the Commission.

C) Confirm that commissioners are prepared to move to Stage II, Fact Certification Process, at first meeting in May

Chairman Percy confirmed that the Commission is prepared to move on to Stage II in the discussion of the Cloud OID.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Rotker:

- went on ride-along and found it extremely educational
- noted "phenomenal electronics" used
- said it helped him gain a better appreciation of what officers do

Commissioner Ward:

- spoke regarding a letter sent to the Commission by Mr. Pete Bollinger
- noted that people have different opinions and there should be discussion
- said he realizes that sentiments expressed are not held solely by Mr. Bollinger
- said the Commission is charged with determining how well the police police themselves, stating that improvement is needed in that area and that the Commission should look at that
- said he was sorry Mr. Bollinger was not able to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Beeman:

- acknowledged receipt of Commissioner Ward's memo
- commented that Mr. Bollinger's unwillingness to come to the meeting refers to his credibility
- stated that Commissioner Ward's job on the Commission is invaluable
- said she feels Mr. Bollinger is "off base"

Chairman Percy:

- noted there are polarized points of view and that no one is pleased 100% of the time

- stated that even if Mr. Bollinger had been able to attend, discussing the issues with him in a public forum would not be helpful.

Mary Shelton said she understands the Commission will get a lot of criticism and that there are many misconceptions about how important the Commission is to the public. She spoke about attempts to get commissioners removed from the Commission. She said she was bothered by copies of Mr. Ward's memo with Mr. Bollinger's letter going to so many people, noting the commissioner involved should be told promptly if there is an issue.

Mr. Rogan advised that, after receipt of Mr. Bollinger's letter, the first persons notified were Chairman Percy, Vice-Chair Corral, and Commissioner Ward. Mr. Rogan noted that it was Commissioner Ward's decision to advise the full commission.

Items for Future Commission Consideration

There were no items discussed for future consideration.

Adjourn to Outreach Committee Meeting

The Commission adjourned to the Outreach Committee Meeting at 7:06 PM.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING

Audio for the following proceedings is available on the CPRC website:

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Roll Call

Rotker	Soubirous	Hubbard	Brandriff	Ward	Pearcy	Corral	Santore	Beeman
✓	✓	A	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓

Approval of March Minutes

Outreach Committee Minutes	Motion	Second	Approve	Oppose	Abstain
March 12 Outreach Committee Meeting	Santore	Beeman	3	0	3

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Community Presentation Format

Committee Chair Beeman reported that she hadn't completed the final draft of the presentation format, but hopes to have it ready by the next meeting.

Outreach Program Roundtable Discussion

- 1) Purpose and goals
- 2) Commissioner participation
- 3) Information handouts and promotional give-aways

Committee Chair Beeman noted that the purpose and goals of outreach is to educate community about role and availability of the CPRC and to get invited to attend meetings and other community activities.

Commissioner Soubrious asked for clarification about what she had read in the minutes with regard to going into a church. Committee Chair Beeman advised that she had formulated suggested activities, one of which was to hold open forum meetings in communities, noting that there has been some success holding those in local churches. She noted it would be a way to expose commissioners to general thoughts and attitudes towards law enforcement in the community.

Commissioner Soubrious expressed concerns that the Commission would be soliciting complaints and felt uncomfortable with that.

Commissioner Hubbard echoed Commissioner Soubrious' sentiments, noting it is not the Commission's role to solicit complaints. He suggested partnering with the City to make an informational video for Channel 3, noting it would give a greater amount of exposure. He also noted that the most effective way to reach law enforcement is by doing ride-alongs. He commented that outreach should reach the greatest number of community members possible and that the Commission should take advantage of technology. He said he would like to see the Commission invited to a venue.

Commissioner Soubrious noted that the Commission couldn't hold meetings at all churches and that CH 3 is there for everyone.

Committee Chair Beeman said it is important to discuss purpose and goals of outreach and was attempting to expose commissioners to communities different than their own.

Commissioner Percy noted that part of the Commission's challenge is getting invited to speak to community groups. He said the Commission needs to communicate out to get invited.

Jennifer Vaughn-Blakley, a member of "The Group," advised that The Group is in the process of inviting the Commission to one of its meetings. She said there are many groups that want the Commission on their agenda. She noted that communities need to be educated and informed.

Committee Chair Beeman said the Commission needs to educate the community of its role and availability to attend community meetings.

Commissioner Percy noted that burden should be equal and that staff must be allowed to do the same.

Outreach Opportunities

Committee Chair Beeman reported on the following outreach opportunities:

- The Group – May 1st at 7 AM at the Coffee Depot
 - Chairman Percy will attend
 - noted the importance Mr. Rogan's to attendance
- May 5th –Riverside County Peace Officers' Memorial
- May 21st – Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner, Riverside Convention Center
 - Ms. Sherron advised she would contact commissioners to determine attendance
- Riverside Neighborhood Conference - May 31st at California Baptist University
 - Ms. Sherron reported that there were sufficient volunteers to staff the CPRC table

Items for Future Committee Consideration

There were no items discussed for future Committee consideration.

Adjournment

The Outreach Committee adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in red ink, reading "Phoebe Sherron", is written over a horizontal line.

PHOEBE SHERRON
Sr. Office Specialist